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ALCATEL FIT No. 103468 "Thermal Compensation of Fibre Bragg Gratings"

13.11.01

## **Patent Claims**

1. Fibre grating filter optical waveguide device, comprising an optical fibre consisting essentially of silica, whereby said optical fibre has an area with a diffracting grating region, wherein said area with a diffracting grating region is in direct contact with a material having a negative thermal expansion coefficient  $\alpha$  satisfying the following equation:

$$\alpha = - \left( \frac{dn_{eff}}{dT} \right) / n_{eff}$$

wherein  $dn_{eff}$  / dT is the thermo-optic coefficient of the fibre material and  $n_{eff}$  is the effective refractive index.

- 2. Device according to claim 1, wherein the material is a polymeric material.
- 3. Device according to claim 2, wherein the polymeric material is a crosslinked polymeric material.
- 4. Device according to claim 2 or 3, wherein the monomeric and/or oligomeric precursor materials of said polymeric material display an anisotropic behaviour.
- 5. Device according to claim 4, wherein the monomeric and/or oligomeric precursor materials of said polymeric material display liquid crystalline behaviour in the molten state.
- 6. Device according to claim 5, wherein the polymeric material displays anisotropic characteristics.
- 7. Device according to claim 6, wherein the polymeric material exhibits a negative linear thermo electrical coefficient along the fibre axis.

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- 8. Method for manufacturing a device according to one of the preceding claims, comprising the following steps:
  - forming a diffraction grating area along an optical axis of an optical fibre
  - bringing in contact of at least said area of the optical fibre with monomeric and/or oligomeric precursor materials give a layer or a coating of said monomeric and/or oligomeric precursor materials on at least said area
  - curing the layer of the monomeric and/or oligomeric precursor materials
- 9. Method according to claim 8, wherein the curing is carried out by temperature, UV, electron beam or gamma irradiation.
- 10. Method according to claim 8 or 9, wherein the monomeric and/or oligomeric prrcursor materials are aligned by a magnetic field in the fibre axis direction before or during curing.
- 11. Device obtainable by a process according to one of the preceding claims 8 to 10.